

THE LAST LAUGH

The Funniest Yarn You Ever Read.

By Ring W. Lardner.

Illustrated by Fontaine Fox.

BROTHER CHARLEY, well, I suppose you been having rotten weather down east just the same like we been having out here.

Well Charley when you move out in a suburb they ain't no chance for a man to spend a quiet evening at home on a wife because they come thing doing every minute out here other Co. comes to our house to get a round of play cards & lay up our home brew or else we go some where else to some body's house & play cards, but you couldn't drown your self in the home stuff they give us when we're at there house but when I lay at our house its different. But Grace is having the time of her life & says she didn't never know what a good time was when she was in the city. She says she use to think she wouldn't care nothing about society but its grate being a live place well Charley its like a grave yard, come pared with this place & some thing doing every minute you're in good dress & getting my best close dress.

Well Charley, we was to a party the night before last & we got to an other party next wk. & it takes most of my time getting my shoes shined & they talk about Chicago being a live place well Charley its like a grave yard, come pared with this place & some thing doing every minute you're in good dress & getting my best close dress.

The party last night was over to Curtis house the wood and coal man & no wonder his wife as us to the party because there getting a bout \$20.00 dollars per mo. out of us for 1 & 2 ton of coal & wouldn't let them none to give us a party once a mo. & have bootleg whisky, but they didn't give us no wine only home brew & not hardly enough of that to wet your tongue & of course I dry or 2 bottles don't even clear my throat & they might as well give me a spoon full of butter milk & I want to have a good time & if I was in the wood & coal business I bet I would give my friends enough to eat

as she that she was but any way the gents prize was a box to put your collars in & if I had of win I would of throwed it a way as soon as we got out side the house because I aint got so many collars that they would half to take them down town & change them over because they was plane black & she aint in morning for her. So the people that win the prizes was well come to them eh Charley.

Well the Carrys is giving a party next wk. & we come home with them from the Curtis party & Mr. Carry out me how did I in joy my self & I says O. K. only I could of got a way with a couple more bottles of brew with out standing on the plan- no & singing a song.

Grace come in a little while a go looking mad so I says what's the matter & she says nothing & says you cant fool me so she told me a bout passing by Mrs. Carpenter & Mrs. Hamilton & she says that they didn't never call on her back & Mr. Hamilton was 1 of the guys that wouldn't leave us in & dance that time we got the invitation by Miss take & went down to the dance & I says to Grace what did you speak to them for & she says she wanted to show she didn't care them no grudge because they were calling on her & I says well you will know better next time & I pretend I like it a joke but I would like to get a good chance to get back at them people Charley & I guess you know im the 1 that can do it when I get the chance. Kindest to Mary.

FRED A. GROSS.

Allison, Ill. Jan. 25.

Dear Charley, Well Charley I & Grace is going to get back at them swell head Hamiltons & Carpenters

was giving parties but she says Well I wont argue with you and if you want give me no money to have a party well I will just half to go going to other people houses and she act it like she was going to club but I says Well suppose you give a party who would you act to it and she says why the Carrys and the Curtis that had to there house and then a few other couple that we met at them 2 parties so I says have you forgot the Hamiltons & Carpenters & she says I forgot them of course I aint forgot them but you think I would act them to a party at my house after the way they been acting so then I seen the ju. & I says they some gents to the way our talking now and we will have a party and not act neither the Hamiltons or Carpenters & they will feel like a dirty doose. Well Grace couldn't see it but I guess you can see it. Charley and I would you & Mary feel like the people living next door to you give a swell party & you wasnt no one would care for it & I called you Charley. So I says to Grace Well I dont care what you think

them out & we cant act 16 people & have 4 tables because we aint only got 3 tables in the house. I will write to her the sheriff of Cook Co. & I bet you wish you & Mary could be here for it.

Kindest to Mary.

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Well Charley I guess I better tell you how they come in & the papers was full of it this A. M. & I called up the chief & says I wouldnt be down to day and he says all right & I aint said nothing to Grace

Well I live wrote you a long letter Charley but I guess I had some news for you even if it was bad news but the news had news & the papers was full of it this A. M. & I called up the chief & says I wouldnt be down to day and he says all right & I aint said nothing to Grace

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